

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A mask for filtering air having an area that can be opened and closed at will without removing the mask.
2. The mask according to claim 1 wherein the area that can be opened and closed at will is approximately over the mouth of the wearer.
3. The mask according to claim 1 wherein the area that can be opened and closed at will is formed from overlapping pieces of material.
4. The mask according to claim 1 wherein the area that can be opened and closed at will is covered with a flap attached to the mask.
5. The mask according to claim 1 wherein the area that can be opened and closed at will is formed of a self-closing material.
6. The mask according to claim 1 further comprising attachments to maintain the mask in place on a wearer.
7. The mask according to claim 1 wherein the area that can be open and closed at will is covered by a removable patch which can be re-affixed to the mask.
8. The mask according to claim 1 which covers the wearer's head.